

## CHILDREN OF STREET-LAND

Bootblacks, Peddlers, Newsies, Messengers, and Their Handicaps.

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(Exclusive Service The Survey Press Bureau.)

Many growing boys and girls loiter in the market place in search of food to supplement their meals. Some fill themselves with pickles, cakes and the refuse of the pushcart. Chronic indigestion is the only price these street children pay for this market food. But the cost to the community in wasted effort to educate such groups of children, labelled backward or indolent in school, while in reality half-nourished, is greater than that of the school luncheons now provided by some communities. These findings are the result of the first organized attempt at supervising the life and labor of boys and girls on the street.

### Observation in Many Cities

The work was undertaken under the auspices of the Boston School Board, with the idea of discovering how seriously the labor of these street-traders interferes with their school work. It began with the appointment of a director to supervise the licensed minors of Boston—some three thousand newsboys, bootblacks, peddlers, messengers, delivery boys, bag boys, wood pickers, who were found everywhere on the streets, too often during school hours. It led to visits to many cities in order to find out what the children of Street-Land were doing and what was being done for them.

Everywhere the investigation showed the same problem and the same results. While the children of Boston frequent the city dumps, those of Baltimore use the gutter as their playground, the open sewers their bathing brook of the kindergarten story. The East Side of New York is so crowded that a vacant lot is a luxury. Each side of the street is pre-empted by peddlers, peddlers hours before the children rise in the morning. Even in the famous Chicago Loop, one of the most congested business districts in the world, children were found playing and working and loafing in the midst of danger.

And likewise, although each city may be singled out for some special phase of the street problem, the data proved that certain quarters in all cities develop the same street environment and the same street product. Every juvenile court proves the same contention regardless of the nationality of the child and the country from which he came. Close, crowded homes, offering little opportunity for study or play, prove a varying degree, undermining the basis of family life—these are universal causes driving boys and girls onto the streets.

### Streets As Playgrounds

Other investigations, those of tenement house commissions, immigration commissions, city surveys, and especially recreation surveys all point to one conclusion: The street, though unfit for play, is, nevertheless, the playground of many American cities. How to extract the good from street life and suppress the evil; how to get the street to cooperate rather than compete with home and school, are the great educational problems of twentieth century days.

There are two distinct movements: the first an effort to take (and reform) the children off the streets; the second, an attempt to improve the conditions for children who are on the streets. The first movement has always eliminated home and school reform and the demand for more playgrounds. It may well be, as Charlotte Perkins Gilman has argued for years, that reorganizing the home will dispense with the need for schools which are crowded out children. Washdays are certainly hard on children. Why not let the children use the so-called "backyard room" as a playroom on such days—indeed every day. Nothing could be more useless than the parlor, generally crowded with stiff furniture and looked, while the children play in the gutter. The use of the back yard, too often devoted to the needs of garbage, is as urgent as the conversion of the parlor into playroom. Roof gardens are similarly possible. In the "lure blocks", where tenements are jammed in, side to side, of tenting a party wall, a roof garden could run from end to end thus rendering to the children nearly every inch of space the tenement took from them.

### Children of Mothers Who Work

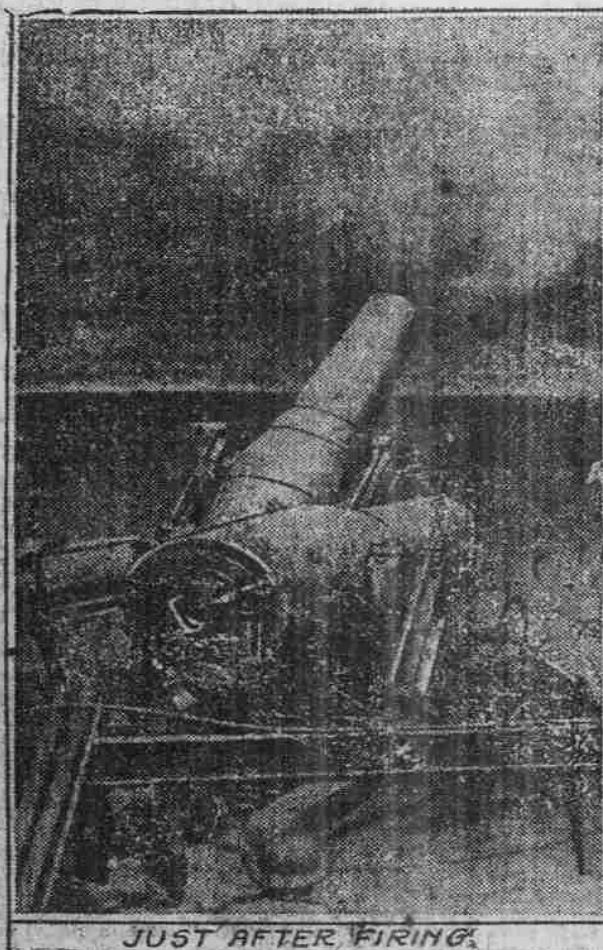
One of the saddest ways of taking large groups of children off the streets is to return mothers to their homes. The movement for widows' pensions is due to a growing conviction that the children of a wage-earning widow, who are either locked up in the house or locked out on the street, may eventually cost the state more than a pension. But what of a working mother who is not a widow? Is she better able to look after the children while out working or scrubbing? Is a drunken husband who shifts the burden of support on his wife any more useful to the home than a dead husband? State aid for such mothers is gaining ground in different states because, as one judge put it, "if poverty compels them to leave the home, the obvious remedy is to remove poverty itself." The eight-hour day which gives working parents more time for homes and children is also a wise economic expedient and a social necessity.

As the kindergarten has effectively taken off the streets in the morning thousands of little children under compulsory school age, so the rapid conversion of schools into social centers is now taking off the streets at night the youth above the compulsory age. Four hundred social centers have been opened in the United States within a decade, with a phenomenal attendance and a multitude of activities.

In line with the second movement, to improve conditions for children on the streets, is to close certain side streets to through traffic and set them aside for play under supervision. There is precedent in other fields for such trafficless streets. Commercial zones have frequently been established for various purposes; for example, for peddlers during certain hours. Safety islands, or guarded spaces and squares, encouraged by European examples, are common in New York. Heavy teaming has been excluded for years from avenues bearing the legend—"For Pleasure Driving Only."

Residential streets will, it is hoped, bear similar legends—"For Play

## BIG MORTARS ROAR IN TEST OF NEW YORK CITY DEFENSES



JUST AFTER FIRING.



MONSTER COAST DEFENSE MORTAR AND CREW

The practice with the twelve inch coast defense mortars at Fort Totten, guarding New York city, was resumed after an intermission of three years, due to protests of Long Island residents, who resented having to take down their pictures and open all their windows. The aiming was very good and the mortars efficiency, according to those who witnessed the shooting. Eighteen shots were fired, six single and six salvos of two shots each, costing the government \$1,400 for ammunition. An enemy ship would have been destroyed by the fire, had she been in the target's place. Fort Totten is one of the most powerful of the forts guarding New York. Besides the twelve mortars, there are two twelve-inch rifles, two ten-inch rifles, two eight-inch rifles, two five-inch rifles and three-inch guns to stand off mine sweepers and landing parties.

Only "or Children's Playground. Do Not Enter." The suggestion of the creation of "streets for children only" was enthusiastically adopted by the first city and town planning conference of Massachusetts as a basic plank in its platform. New York and other cities are experimenting this summer with such streets with very promising results. Undoubtedly this is the entering wedge of a system of street supervision of child life which is certain to become nation-wide, and which will guarantee to every community that the cherished ideals of home and school shall henceforth be not destroyed but reinforced by street influences.

### ASK MAYOR MITCHELL TO ATTEND McFARLAND AND GIBBONS BATTLE

New York, Aug. 30.—The bout between Paekle McFarland and Mike Gibbons which will be fought at the Brighton Motorrome on Sept. 11, will bring back many veteran fans who, in recent years, seem to have lost interest in the sport. Among those who will be seen at the ringside when those two greatest boxers of the present day square off against each other will be James B. Brady (Diamond Jim) one of the most enthusiastic fans during the old Horton Law days. Brady has not attended a local boxing match in five years. Invitations will be extended by Mayor John Purroy Mitchell, of New York, to witness the bout. Mayor Mitchell is a lover of all athletic sports and a devotee of many, including boxing. During his campaign for the office he now holds he boxed several rounds every day to fit himself for the ordeal of electioneering. Before his election he attended many of the local boxing shows.

Tomorrow will be Dollar Day. For this occasion we will offer extraordinary bargains in millinery, shirt waists, silk petticoats, marabout boas, marabout capes, veils, cloth coats, separate day skirts, linen auto coats and ostrich plumes at E. H. Dillon & Co.'s, 1115 Main street.—Adv.

**Dollar Day** **1\$ DAY**

**VANDYK'S**  
SEE WHAT ONE DOLLAR WILL BUY

<b>Duchess Coffee</b> Regular Price 30c. Dollar Day Special <b>4 lbs. \$1.00</b>	<b>Best Teas</b> Regular Price 35c and 40c. Dollar Day Special <b>3 lbs. \$1.00</b>
<b>SPRING VALLEY Butter</b> FINEST BUTTER MADE. REGULAR PRICE 32c. Dollar Day Special <b>3½ lbs. \$1.00</b>	<b>Strictly Fresh Eggs</b> All Guaranteed Regular Price 35c Doz. Dollar Day Special <b>3 doz. \$1.00</b>

### BIG DOLLAR DAY COMBINATION

1 lb. DUCHESS COFFEE	30c
1 lb. BEST TEA	20c
1 lb. SPRING VALLEY BUTTER	32c
1 doz. FRESH EGGS	35c
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.17</b>

**All for one Dollar**  
**THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY.**

**VAN DYK'S** 1135 Main Street

**Bring Your Dollar Here and See All It Will Buy on Tuesday SPECIAL**

**Ladies' Pumps, Oxfords and Boots**

We have about 250 pairs of pumps and oxfords, black and tan, also 100 pairs of boots, which we will close out Tuesday—BRIDGEPORT DOLLAR DAY—at

**\$1.00**  
**Per Pair**

**This Footwear Has Sold as High as \$4 Per Pair**

**Ladies' Sample Shoe Parlor**

1115 MAIN ST.

Security Building

TAKE ELEVATOR

## Triangle

Four weeks ago I printed an advertisement headed WARNING.

In it I told of some of the plans of the Triangle Film Corporation and intimated that I expected large profits.

But I was so afraid that there might be exaggerations and overstatements by persons without authority to speak that I made very plain the fact that anything that promised so very much in profit necessarily entailed some risk of loss.

I said we had got together the greatest organization of moving picture producers the world had ever known, great actors and actresses, great executives and

GRIFFITH, Producer of "The Birth of a Nation."

INCE, Famous for the "Battle of Gettysburg."

SENNETT, Master Laughmaker of the "World, Creator of Keystone Comedies."

But my belief that the theatre managers of this country would be willing to pay big weekly rentals for fine pictures was only belief. Now it is FACT.

THE BEST THEATRES have written, telegraphed, telephoned offers to weekly rentals equalling my estimates.

The ablest executives in the film business have joined us. For "Nothing Succeeds Like Success." Actors and actresses who have hitherto found the pictures below their dignity have come to us eagerly.

Those who appear in the first Triangle plays will give you a pretty good idea of the calibre of the rest.

RAYMOND HITCHCOCK  
DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS  
DUSTIN FARNUM

all in one evening's entertainment—think of it!

And then there will be Billie Burke, De Wolf Hopper, Joe Weber, Lew Fields and a host of others.

Four weeks ago "Triangle Film" was unknown to the New York stock market. It came out at par—\$5.00 per share. As I write it is selling there for \$6.50 or more a share.

I do not control the price.

Many big men are buying Triangle Film. I appreciate their interest and their support.

But the man I want is the ten-share man, and the man who owns fifty shares. For he is the man who most appreciates his monthly dividend check.

It is he who goes regularly to the theatre that shows Triangle Plays, and tells his friends to go.

I want you who read this advertisement to own stock enough to laugh the heartier at a Keystone Comedy because you are part owner of it.

Just ask a good stock broker or your banker to get some shares for you—while the market is low.

I am President of Triangle Film Corporation. I believe it will earn large profits. I believe that the Company's interest will best be served by having the largest possible number of stockholders. Hence this advertisement. It tells the truth as I see it, avoiding overstatement and avoiding equally understatement, for understatements may be as misleading and unfair as overstatements.

As to October 18, 1915

Very soon after October 18th Triangle Plays will appear in the best theatre in Bridgeport.

The best players in all the world, working under the supervision of the world's greatest directors, must produce the best pictures.

And the best people will see them in the one best theatre in each locality.

H. E. Aitken

**Farmer Ads Bring Results**